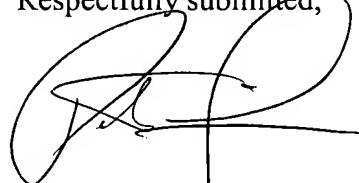


**REMARKS**

The applicants request that the filing fee be calculated based on the claims as amended.

Examination of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter A. Nieves  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 48,173

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Mail Stop Application on December 22, 2003, Manchester, New Hampshire.

PAN: slc

By Stephanie h. Capne

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.  
130 W. CUSHING ST.  
TUCSON, AZ 85701  
TEL. 520.882.7623  
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET  
MANCHESTER, NH 03101  
TEL. 603.668.1400  
FAX. 603.668.8567